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WHITEAWAY'S

SOVIET TROOPS INVADE POLAND

RUSSIANS MARCH INTO STRICKEN COUNTRY TO "PROTECT INTERESTS"

Invasion Starts 24 Hours After U.S.S.R. Tears Up Pact Of Non-Aggression With Warsaw



POLAND, which disappeared from the map of Europe for seven centuries, re-appeared as a result of the Great War. Her territories were carved from Russia and Germany. German territory was west of the line shown in this map; Russian territory east of the map.

Poles Refuse To Surrender City

DESTRUCTION OF WARSAW THREAT

LONDON, Sept. 16 (Reuter).—The Nazi radio in Berlin announces that the Germans have presented a 12-hour ultimatum calling on Warsaw to surrender.

Leaflets conveying the ultimatum were dropped over Warsaw at 3.10 yesterday afternoon.

Special to "Telegraph"
BERLIN, SEPT. 16. (Up.)—The D.N.B. (Official German News Agency) reports that the Polish commander of the Warsaw garrison has refused the German demand for the surrender of the city.

Following the refusal, the report claims, German planes scattered millions of handbills over the Polish capital demanding, firstly, the surrender of the city within twelve hours and, secondly, the surrender of the Polish troops within the city.

The handbills stated that, in the case of the demands being met, the surrender should be communicated to the nearest German command.

Should they not be accepted, the civilian population of Warsaw would be given twelve hours in which to leave the city by the roads to Dirschau and Garwolin.

All Its Consequences

After twelve hours, the handbills stated, in the event of the demands being refused, the entire area would be treated as a battle area, with all its consequences.

The handbills were dropped at 3.10 a.m., from which time the twelve-hour deadline was presumably calculated.

The German Command also sent a German spokesman through the lines with a written demand for the surrender of Warsaw. The spokesman departed from the German lines at 8 a.m. and arrived at the Polish entry lines at 8.30 a.m.

Ultimatum Rejected

The German request was communicated to the Polish Commander in Warsaw, who gave his reply an hour and a half later, saying that he would not receive the spokesman. The D.N.B. states that German offi-

cers said they had made this last effort to transmit a written demand to Warsaw when all other means had failed.

Complete Destruction Is Ordered

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

PARIS, Sept. 16 (UP)—Munich Radio has announced that Warsaw will be considered a combat zone at 3 a.m. and will be completely destroyed by airplanes and artillery bombardments.

Striking Success Against Subs

PARIS, Sept. 16 (UP)—"Untranslatable" reports that it is officially learned that the Allies have sunk two Nazi U-boats and have captured eight others.

If this report is correct it indicates that the war on the U-boats is meeting with striking success. The total Nazi U-boat fleet does not number more than 80 vessels.

POISON GAS ACCUSATION

BERLIN, Sept. 16 (UP)—The German High Command accuses the Poles of using mustard gas, and of violating the International convention prohibiting the use of gas.

It declares that two were killed and 12 wounded when gas mine exploded while engineers were removing a bridge on the Jazlava Bridge near Jaslo on September 8.

Experts in Berlin immediately investigated and determined that mustard gas was actually used, the Nazi report alleges.

Special To The "Telegraph"

POLAND HAS BEEN INVADED BY SOVIET FORCES. AN URGENT "UNITED PRESS" MESSAGE FROM BERLIN CONFIRMS THAT SOVIET TROOPS MARCHED ACROSS THE BORDER AT 4 A.M. SOVIET TIME (10 A.M. HONGKONG TIME).

GERMAN APPROVAL

The invasion is stated to have occurred with the knowledge and full approval of the German Government

The D.N.B. (German Official News Agency), announcing the invasion, states that the Soviet Government has informed Germany that she intends to maintain neutrality in the European conflict, despite the invasion of Polish territory.

The Russian Note adds that all Russian treaties with Poland, including the Russo-Polish Non-Aggression Pact, are cancelled, since the "Polish State is no longer regarded as being in existence."

ULTIMATUM ON SATURDAY

The events leading up to this latest drama in the European conflict started on Saturday, when the Soviet Government handed to the Polish Ambassador in Moscow, M. Gromyko, a Note informing him that Soviet forces would cross the frontier into Poland at 4 a.m. on Sunday.

ENTIRE BORDER INVADED

The Soviet Note informed Poland that Russian troops would march in across the entire Russo-Polish frontier, from Polozk in the north to Kamenzpolodz in the south

The decision to invade Poland was taken, the Note further added, in "order to protect the interests of the U.S.S.R., and in order to protect the Russian Ukrainian minorities.

Intervention May Draw Soviets Into The War

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

PARIS, Sept. 16 (UP)—A warning that the Soviets would be plunged into a general war in Eastern Europe if she joined the Reich attack on Poland, was sounded in Paris to-day as France awaited a clarification of the Moscow position.

The French anxiously awaited concrete indications as to which way Moscow will turn.

The press is filled with speculation on the "equivocal" Soviet attitude.

Paris' Uneasiness

By mid-day, the uneasiness had increased as the result of reports that Moscow had made a deal with Japan to forestall an attack on her rear while she concentrated troops at two points on the west front, and had used newspapers to prepare the way for movements of troops.

Against any Soviet invasion, the French brought forward three arguments: firstly, it was against Russian interest to attack—despite the London rumours of a deal with Hitler whereby the Soviets will have a free hand on the Baltic coast; secondly, Russia would be plunged into a general eastern European war; and, thirdly,

the Soviet Pact of Non-Aggression with Poland would remain valid.

General War?

"Petit Parisien," which often expresses official opinion, warned that the use of the Soviet forces against Poland would oblige Romania, by virtue of her treaty alliance with the latter, to intervene and would draw Moscow into an extended war in the east, for all the Balkans would feel threatened, notably Turkey.

Russia, by entering a generalized conflict, will provoke the grouping of all the anti-Comintern powers. Nor has Germany any interest in seeing formed such a bloc, which might include several of her former allies."

Broken Treaties

Judicially, the Soviets in Poland should be bound by a series of pacts which should have foreseen aggression. The Russo-Polish Non-Aggression accord signed in Moscow in July, 1932, was completed by the

Fierce Battle On The Saar Front

NAZIS RUSH UP REINFORCEMENTS

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

PARIS, Sept. 16 (UP)—An official French war communiqué announces that the Germans are heavily reinforcing the western front.

It announces intensive artillery activity and claims that the Germans are abandoning considerable terrain, including villages, which they are destroying before retreating.

There is great activity both with artillery and other elements of contact on the entire front.

"The enemy is being constantly reinforced before us.

While omitting specific details of the French action, it is taken to indicate the intensity of the attacks as well as the fact that the German counter-drive has been redoubled in the past 24 hours.

Tanks Effective

Unofficial reports state that the French are making most effective use of their tanks to cover the infantry and are hammering the German lines, while their artillery is constantly pounding the fortified German points.

The continued German withdrawal

confirms the failure of the Reich's artillery to halt the advance.

General Gamelin reports that he is most satisfied with the resistance of the French advance units to the German fire, as well as the action of his own big guns, which is succeeding in systematically silencing the German artillery at all major points of attack and forcing the defence forces to retire.

Mass Formations

LONDON, Sept. 16 (Reuter).—Late last night it was reported that three mass formations of German tanks and infantry tried to smash the French lines near Saarbrücken.

The battle took place near the Saar village of Nied, half-way between Luxembourg and Saarbrücken.

The attacking Germans were driven back by the French despite heavy shelling.

German aeroplanes dived low and machine-gunned the French positions, but the French withheld the assault in newly-dug trenches and are still maintaining their positions on the south bank of the Saar.

A large-scale German counter-attack was made on the rugged plateau which, between the River Nied and the Wurm Forest, dominates Sarrelouis.

Thus, bit by bit, successive communiqués announce more or less important engagements around the central Saar region.

Fighting in the lower valley of the Nied is taking place on the right bank of the stream, which passes Bouszonville and meanders with sharp curves across a plateau strewn with little woods.

Major Interest

The eastern rim of this plateau dominates the alley of the Saar, forming a balcony on which artillery can batter Saarbrücken and the whole Valley of the Saar and the heights situated on the other side of the river, on which the real Siegfried Line is built.

The enemy therefore has a major interest in stemming French progress here before the French reach the rim of the plateau.

LATEST

German Goods Seized On Ship

Three thousand packages of alleged contraband were seized in Hongkong during the week-end aboard the Danish East Asiatic Company's steamer Malaya, shortly after the vessel arrived in port from Hamburg.

The packages consist mainly of iron and steel goods, consigned to Shanghai. The Malaya sailed this afternoon for Shanghai.

POLES RESIST

LONDON, Sept. 16 (Reuter).—According to a cable received by the Polish Embassy from Riga, Polish troops are resisting the Russian invasion.

War's Biggest Battle

PARIS, Sept. 16.

Military dispatches say that war's biggest battle is being waged on the Nied River, the center sector being between the Moselle River and Saarbrücken.

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